(b) if so, the details thereof including the suggested changes which it intends to bring in the current plan model;

(c) whether the new plan process has been discussed thread bare by Government/economists and others before it is implemented; and

(d) if so, whether there is any difference of opinion on it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (d) Deputy Chairman. Planning Commission held a meeting with some Senior Economists of the country on 23rd May. 1994 to discuss the role and shape of planning in the context of economic reforms in the country. This meeting was a part of an ongoing process of wider consultation on issues pertaining to development and planning. This meeting endorsed the need for and relevance of planning in the context of changing economic scenario.

Committee for boosting employment

869. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that committee was appointed recently to go into the question of boosting employment of educated unemployed youths:

(b) if so, whether that Committee has submitted its report and if so when and what are the recommendations made by it;

(c) the action taken by Government on the recommendation;

(d) if no action has yet been taken, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) the steps taken to expedite the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a)) to (e) The Committee on Boosting Employment for the Educated Unemployed submitted its Report in September, 1992. As the Report is under consideration of the Government, it is not possible to provide any details about the recommendations of the Committee.

Evaluation of Jawahar Rojgar Yojna in five States by O.R.G. Baroda

861. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Operation Research Group, Baroda, was to evalute the working of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojna in five States;

(b) whether this Group has since submitted its report;

(c) if so, what are the findings of this Group; and

(d) what modifications are proposed to be made in the concept of the Scheme and its implementation machinery, in the light of the findings suggestions of the Group?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) No, Sir. However, the Ministry of Rural Development has undertaken a concurrent evaluation of JRY (May 1993 to June 1994) conducted by several research institutions throughout the country. The Operation Research Group. Baroda has also been associated with this evaluation study but only in six districts of Gujarat and one district of Dadra & Nagar Haveli.

(b) to (d) The Operation Research Group has recently submitted its filled in schedules for the evaluation studies. On receipt of the filled in schedules from all the States, the concurrent evaluation report will be compiled and finalised by the Ministry of Rural Development.

Allocation of plan funds for development of power

862. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the region-wise allocation of Plan funds for the development of power in the successive Five Year Plans;

(b) the criteria according to which such allocations have been decided upon; and

(c) whether the eastern and the north-eastern zones received the lowest allocations for power in all the Plans?

THE MINISTER of STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) to (c) The allocation of Plan funds for the development of power sector in the successive Five Year Plans is not done region-wise but the same is being done on Statewise basis. The allocation of Plan funds for the State is decided based on the State's own resources and the Central support. The Central support includes market borrowing, negotiated loans, formula based Central assistance, Central assistance for externally aided projects and plan revenue deficit grant etc. The Statewise allocation for power sector is available in the successive Five Year Plans document.

Variation in estimates of urban poor, unemployed and under-employed

863. SHRI JAGMOHAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission's estimates regarding the number of urban poor, urban unemployed and under-employed have been found to be very low;

(b) whether the Lakadawala Committee has estimated that the number is about double the figure adopted by the Commission;

(c) what are the reasons for this wide variation; and

(d) what action is being taken to make the necessary correction?

THE MINISTER of STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO):

(a) and (b) Planning Commission has estimated the number of urban poor as 4.17 crore in 1987-88. The "Expert Group on Estimation of Proportion and Number of Poor" under the chairmanship of Prof. D.T. Lakadawala has estimated the number of urban poor as 3.34 crore in 1987-88. Planning Commission estimates of urban unemployment rates, based on the results of National Sample Survey on Employment and Unemployment of 43rd (1987-88) are 6.56 per cent as per usual principal status, 7.12 per cent as per current weekly status and 9.36 per cent as per current daily status. The Expert Group under the chairmanship of Prof. D.T. Lakdawala has not estimated unemployment and underemployment rates.

(c) and (d) The variation in the estimate of urban poverty between Planning Commission and the "Expert Group" is due to the differences in the methodology of estimation.